



# NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

**TODD P. GRAVES**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **RAYTOWN WOMAN SENTENCED FOR EMBEZZLING \$731,516**

**KANSAS CITY, Mo.** – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced today that a Raytown, Mo., woman has been sentenced in federal court today for stealing from both her employer and her boyfriend.

**Janice L. Vobornik**, 60, of Raytown, was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Nanette K. Laughrey on Jan. 12, 2005, to five years in federal prison without parole. The court also ordered **Vobornik** to pay \$735,516 in restitution.

“**Vobornik** is a repeat offender,” Graves said, noting that she was on supervised release for a prior conviction on federal bank fraud charges during the time she committed some of the offenses for which she was sentenced this week. According to Graves, **Vobornik** was convicted in 1994 for a 10-year-long scheme that defrauded Boatmen’s First National Bank (where she was employed as vice president and commercial loan officer) of nearly \$340,000. She was sentenced to 20 months in federal prison on that offense, followed by a five-year term of supervised release.

“It’s unfortunate that, given a second chance in life, this defendant chose to victimize those who trusted her,” Graves said.

On Aug. 3, 2004, **Vobornik** pleaded guilty to defrauding several financial institutions by writing fraudulent checks on her employer’s accounts and obtaining fraudulent cash advances on her employer’s lines of credit. **Vobornik** also pleaded guilty to defrauding a financial institution by stealing checks from the man she was living with, then writing fraudulent checks on his account. **Vobornik** also pleaded guilty to defrauding several financial institutions by writing fraudulent cash advance checks from several credit card companies.

**Vobornik** was employed as a bookkeeper and office manager for Trim Rite Lawn Service, Inc., also known as Trim Rite Equipment, formerly located at 6406 Blue Ridge Cut-Off

in Raytown. Trim Rite was in the business of selling commercial lawn equipment.

According to Graves, **Vobornik** wrote fraudulent checks and obtained fraudulent cash advances on her employer's lines of credit in the amount of \$586,416 from 1997 to Oct. 9, 2001.

**Vobornik** made checks payable to herself, to "cash," or to the bank, Graves explained, and forged the signature of her employer. She also obtained counter checks from the bank and wrote checks on them against Trim Rite's account, forging her employer's signature. **Vobornik** concealed her theft by making false entries in Trim Rite's accounting records. **Vobornik** also admitted that she obtained fraudulent cash advances on the company's lines of credit at two additional financial institutions.

**Vobornik** stole at least 23 checks belonging to the man she was living with between April 6, 1997, and Feb. 18, 2002, Graves said. **Vobornik** forged his signature and then either deposited the checks into her personal checking account or cashed them. **Vobornik** admitted that she obtained at least \$79,400 by fraud, and used the proceeds for her own personal benefit, often spending the money gambling.

**Vobornik** also intercepted her boyfriend's mail, Graves said, and opened mail addressed to him from credit card companies. When that mail contained blank cash advance checks, **Vobornik** removed the checks and wrote checks payable to herself, forging his signature. **Vobornik** wrote a total of 42 unauthorized cash advance checks from six financial institutions and thereby obtained a total of approximately \$65,700. **Vobornik** admitted that she either cashed the checks or deposited them into her personal checking account, using the proceeds for her personal benefit, often spending the money gambling.

This case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Linda Parker Marshall. It was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

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This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at

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